

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9986

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 0651

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: CPRS, ZA, US

SUBJECT: CROTHERS CASE

REF: (A) LUSAKA 480

(B) COOTE/WILKOWSKI LETTER OF 3/29/74

1. IT WILL BE RECALLED THAT CONCEPT OF LINKAGE OF CROTHERS AND SOGHOIAN CASES THROUGH CONCILIATORY GESTURES AND MUTUAL OFFSETS OCCURRED TO PRESIDENTIAL ADVISOR MARK CHONA EARLY JANUARY (LUSAKA 27 AND 28). FOR OBVIOUS LEGAL RESONS DEPARTMENT'S FULL ROLE WITHIN USG BUREAUCRACY ON LATTER CASE COULD NOT BE REVEALED TO ZAMBIAN OFFICIALS DURING JUDICIAL PROCESS. TIME NOW RIPE TO RECALL AND USE LINKAGE CONCEPT WITH FOREIGN MINISTER MWAANGA, PREFERABLY DURING HIS VISIT THIS WEEK TO WASHINGTON. RECOMMENDATION MADE BECAUSE OF RESISTENCE SHOWN BY MWAANGA DURING MARCH 19 MEETING WHEN AMBASSADOR MENTIONED 40,000 DOLLARS AS APPROPRIATE EX GRATIA PAYMENT. MWAANGA REGARDED THIS AS POLITICALLY TOO HIGH FOR CABINET ACCEPTANCE AND HE RELUCTANT ATTEMPT DEFEND IT.

2. SPECIAL EFFORT BY DEPT TO BRING MWAANGA MORE DIRECTLY IN TOUCH WITH CROTHERS' SIDE OF STORY AND WITH BACKGROUND IN SOGHOIAN CASE COULD, WE BELIEVE, SOFTEN HIS ATTITUDE ON FORMER AND MATERIALLY EASE OUR NEGOTIATING TASK IN LUSAKA.

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3. DEPENDING ON COURSE OF TALKS ON SUBJECT IN
WASHINGTON, WE COULD THEN DECIDE WHETHER TO FOLLOW UP
WITH HIM HERE ON HIS RETURN OR GO BACK TO MARK CHONA
WHERE SETTLEMENT EFFORT INITIATED AND WHERE THERE IS
PROBABLY KEENER APPRECIATION OF POLITICAL NUANCES OF EACH
CASE WHICH ARGUE FOR REASONABLENESS AND USEFULNESS
OF LINKAGE TACTIC AT THIS TIME.
WILKOWSKI

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NNN

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